

REMARKS

At the outset, the undersigned attorney submits he is submitting this Reply in a representative capacity under 37 CFR §1.34. The registration number, name, and signature of the undersigned attorney is provided at the end of this correspondence.

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-146 are currently pending and were the subject of a restriction requirement as follows:

Group I: Claims 1 to 138, drawn to a method of identifying a ligand (inhibitory ligand) comprising screening a combinatorial library.

Group II: Claim 139, drawn to a method of identifying an inhibitory ligand comprising screening a structural panel of biased combinatorial peptide libraries.

Group III: Claim 140, drawn to a method of identifying an inhibitory ligand comprising screening a library with the first member ligands all peptides and the first library is an unbiased library or a biased at not more than two amino acid positions.

Group IV: Claim 141, drawn to a method of identifying an inhibitory ligand comprising screening combinatorial peptide libraries wherein at least some peptides do not contain internal cys residues.

Group V: Claims 142 to 144, drawn to a method of identifying an inhibitory ligand comprising screening combinatorial peptide libraries wherein the ligands do not comprise antibody-like domains.

Group VI: Claim 145, drawn to a method of identifying a pair of ligands.

Group VII: Claim 146, drawn to a method of identifying a pair of ligands wherein the ligands are peptides and do not comprise antibody-like molecules.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants herein elect Group I, claims 1-138, for examination on the merits. This election is made without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file separate Divisional applications on the above unelected claim groups.

Species Election

In addition to the above Restriction, several species election requirements were also imposed. Applicants herein make the following species elections:

A. With respect to the Combinatorial Library species election outlined in Paragraph A on page 4 of the Official

Action, Applicants herein elect a peptide library composed of the 10 peptides shown in the table bridging pages 75 and 76.

B. With respect to the Structured Panel species election outlined in Paragraph B on page 4 of the Official Action, Applicants again refer to the 10 peptides shown in the table bridging pages 75 and 76, and herein elect those disclosed variable and constant residues. Applicants do not elect a subpanel.

C. With respect to the Cys or non-Cys containing peptides outlined in Paragraph C on page 5 of the Official Action, Applicants herein elect the linear Cys-containing peptide X₁₀C and shown on page 75 of the specification.

D. With respect to the the method by which the first library is obtained as outlined in Paragraph D on page 5 of the Official Action, Applicants herein elect biological means.

E. With respect to the target as outlined in Paragraph E on page 5 of the Official Action, Applicants herein elect human cytomegalovirus.

F. With respect to the first member ligand as outlined in Paragraph F on page 5 of the Official Action, Applicants herein elect peptide X₁₀C and shown on page 75 of the specification. This peptide has the sequence EHVCSWGWGRC.

G. With respect to the molecular weight of the second library as outlined in paragraph G of the Official Action,

Applicants herein elect 300, the molecular weight of chlordiazepoxide that is disclosed on page 41 of the specification.

H. With respect to the second library as outlined in Paragraph H of the Official Action, Applicants herein elect benzodiazapines as disclosed on page 83 of the specification.

Applicants submit that the above selections read on claims 1-31, 33-45, 50-53, 58-120, 128-130, and 135-138.

Any fees or credits due with this response may be charged to Deposit Account 23-1665.

If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a discussion with Applicants' representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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